

DESCRIPTION OF A NEW SPECIES OF CALLIONYMUS (CALLIONYMUS BAIRDI) FROM THE GULF OF MEXICO.

By DAVID STARR JORDAN.

Callionymus bairdi, sp. nov.

Head $3\frac{1}{5}$ in length ($4\frac{1}{5}$ with caudal); depth, $9\frac{1}{3}$ (12); D. 1V-9., A. 8. Type No. (39300) U. S. Nat. Mus., $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches long. From the Snapper banks in the Gulf of Mexico.

Body long and low, very slender, the head much depressed, the least depth of the caudal peduncle about equal to the diameter of the eye. Head triangular, as viewed from above, its breadth two-thirds its length exclusive of the preopercular spine. Snout bluntish as seen from above, sharp in profile, its outline straight and moderately steep until above the eyes; profile behind the eyes considerably depressed. Snout $2\frac{2}{3}$ in head to gill opening; eye 4; mouth small, inferior, the maxillary reaching front of eye, as long as snout; lower lip conspicuous. Teeth slender, in villiform bands in both jaws, none on vomer. Interorbital area a simple narrow ridge. Bones of head behind eyes rugose; a low rough tubercle of bare bone above the temporal region on each side, somewhat behind each eye. Preopercular spine very long, as long as eye, its exterior ridge with a single antrorse spinule at its base, its posterior edge with eight conspicuous hooks turned forward and inward, these growing progressively smaller from the second. Gill opening reduced to a pore at upper posterior angle of opercle, its width rather less than that of pupil. Dorsal spines strong, the first ending in a slender filament, the whole as long as head. Second and third spines broken (probably each with a short filament in life, as a short filament is still present on the fourth spine). Fourth spine well behind third (leaving room for another spine, although no trace of such spine is present). Soft dorsal high, most of its rays slightly filamentous at tip, the longest about $\frac{2}{3}$ head. Caudal subtruncate, not filamentous, about as long as head to base of preopercular spine. Anal fin rather high, the length of its base 3 in body. Pectorals about as long as ventrals, each as long as head without preopercular spine. Lateral line single. Color light grayish, mottled or spotted with yellowish and dark brown; cheeks with steel-blue spots; first dorsal with dusky reticulations around pale gray spots; second dorsal and caudal with narrow dusky cross-streaks; anal with its posterior half chiefly black, the anterior pale; ventrals black; pectorals pale.

The type of this species, a specimen $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches long, in good condition, was sent to me by Mr. Silas Stearns, of Pensacola. It came from the "spewings" of Snapper or Grouper (*Lutjanus aya* or *Epinephelus morio*), taken on the "Snapper" banks, between Pensacola and Tampa.

A mutilated specimen of the same species from the same region was received in 1886, and is mentioned in these Proceedings for 1886, page 476.

This species is very different from *C. pauciradiatus* Gill, the only species of *Callionymus* thus far known from our coasts; the much greater number of dorsal and anal rays, as well as the development of the preopercular spine being good distinctive characters.

I have named this species for Prof. Spencer F. Baird, to whom I have been indebted for aids of many kinds in connection with my studies of American fishes.